WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1.   A system for transferring data, comprising:

an imaging device configured to capture said data into data buffers;

5   a data destination configured to receive said data from said imaging

device for subsequent access by a system user; and

a transfer manager for transferring said data from said imaging device

to said data destination.

10   2.   The system of claim 1 wherein said transfer manager utilizes a wireless

communications technique to transfer said data over a wireless network from

said imaging device to said data destination.

3.   The system of claim 1 wherein said imaging device is implemented as a

15   digital camera device, and wherein said data includes image data and related

identification information.

4.   The system of claim 1 wherein an information source provides

identification information to said imaging device for routing said data during

20   a data transfer procedure, said identification information including at least

one of a user identifier for identifying said imaging device and a destination

identifier for identifying said data destination.

5.   The system of claim 4 wherein said imaging device captures said data

25   using a capture subsystem, and then temporarily stores said data into data

buffers, said data buffers being economically implemented using a reduced

memory-size configuration.

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6.   The system of claim 5 wherein said transfer manager performs an arbitration procedure with a wireless communications network to transfer said data to said data destination, said transfer manager being authorized by said wireless communications network to perform said data transfer

5   procedure when sufficient bandwidth is available on said wireless communications network for transferring all or a specified portion of said data.

7.   The system of claim 6 wherein said transfer manager monitors said

10   data buffers, and automatically initiates said arbitration procedure whenever said data stored in said data buffers reaches a predetermined threshold amount.

8.   The system of claim 6 wherein said transfer manager initiates said

15   arbitration procedure in response to a system-user authorization event that is caused by a system user activating a user interface on said imaging device.

9.   The system of claim 6 wherein said transfer manager transfers said data from said data buffers to said wireless communications network for

20   transmitting to said data destination.

10.   The system of claim 9 wherein said transfer manager and a display manager provide status information regarding at least one of said data transfer procedure and said arbitration procedure by utilizing a user interface

25   of said imaging device.

11.   The system of claim 9 wherein said transfer manager performs an initial partial data transfer procedure to transfer only an initial portion of said data to said data destination, said transfer manager subsequently repeating

30   said arbitration procedure and then performing a final partial data transfer procedure to transfer a final portion of said data to said data destination.

12. The system of claim 9 wherein said wireless communications network routes said data from said imaging device to said data destination, said wireless communication network identifying said data destination by referring to said destination identifier from said identification information.

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13. The system of claim 12 wherein a controller of said data destination sends a transfer confirmation to said imaging device by said wireless communications network after successfully receiving said data and said identification information.

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14. The system of claim 13 wherein said transfer manager and a display manager display said transfer confirmation on a user interface of said imaging device, said imaging device also erasing said data from said data buffers in response to said transfer confirmation.

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15. The system of claim 12 wherein a controller of said data destination sends an error message to said imaging device by said wireless communications network after determining that said data and said identification information have not been successfully received, said transfer

20 manager responsively repeating said data transfer procedure to retransmit said data from said data buffers to said data destination.

16. The system of claim 15 wherein said transfer manager and a display manager display said error message on a user interface of said imaging

25 device, said imaging device continuing to store said data in said data buffers until subsequently receiving a transfer confirmation from said data destination.

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17. The system of claim 9 wherein a controller of said data destination analyzes said user identifier from said identification information to identify at least one of said system user and said imaging device, said controller then associating said data with said at least one of said system user and said

5 imaging device.

18. The system of claim 17 wherein said controller stores said data into a data file location that uniquely correspond with, and is identifiable with, said at least one of said system user and said imaging device.

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19. The system of claim 18 wherein said system user subsequently accesses and utilizes said data from said data file location of said data destination by communicating with said data destination with an electronic data-access device.

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20. The system of claim 19 wherein said system user accesses said data file location of said data destination through a distributed computer network by utilizing a personal computer device.

20 21. A method for transferring data, comprising the steps of:
    capturing said data into data buffers by utilizing an imaging device;
    utilizing a data destination to receive said data for subsequent access
        by a system user; and
    transferring said data from said imaging device to said data destination
25   by utilizing a transfer manager.

22. The method of claim 21 wherein said transfer manager utilizes a wireless communications technique to transfer said data over a wireless network from said imaging device to said data destination.

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23. The method of claim 21 wherein said imaging device is implemented as a digital camera device, and wherein said data includes image data and related identification information.

24. The method of claim 21 wherein an information source provides identification information to said imaging device for routing said data during a data transfer procedure, said identification information including at least one of a user identifier for identifying said imaging device and a destination identifier for identifying said data destination.

25. The method of claim 24 wherein said imaging device captures said data using a capture subsystem, and then temporarily stores said data into data buffers, said data buffers being economically implemented using a reduced memory-size configuration.

26. The method of claim 25 wherein said transfer manager performs an arbitration procedure with a wireless communications network to transfer said data to said data destination, said transfer manager being authorized by said wireless communications network to perform said data transfer procedure when sufficient bandwidth is available on said wireless communications network for transferring all or a specified portion of said data.

27. The method of claim 26 wherein said transfer manager monitors said data buffers, and automatically initiates said arbitration procedure whenever said data stored in said data buffers reaches a predetermined threshold amount.

28. The method of claim 26 wherein said transfer manager initiates said arbitration procedure in response to a system-user authorization event that is caused by a system user activating a user interface on said imaging device.

29.   The method of claim 26 wherein said transfer manager transfers said data from said data buffers to said wireless communications network for transmitting to said data destination.

5   30.   The method of claim 29 wherein said transfer manager and a display manager provide status information regarding at least one of said data transfer procedure and said arbitration procedure by utilizing a user interface of said imaging device.

10   31.   The method of claim 29 wherein said transfer manager performs an initial partial data transfer procedure to transfer only an initial portion of said data to said data destination, said transfer manager subsequently repeating said arbitration procedure and then performing a final partial data transfer procedure to transfer a final portion of said data to said data destination.

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32.   The method of claim 29 wherein said wireless communications network routes said data from said imaging device to said data destination, said wireless communication network identifying said data destination by referring to said destination identifier from said identification information.

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33.   The method of claim 32 wherein a controller of said data destination sends a transfer confirmation to said imaging device by said wireless communications network after successfully receiving said data and said identification information.

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34.   The method of claim 33 wherein said transfer manager and a display manager display said transfer confirmation on a user interface of said imaging device, said imaging device also erasing said data from said data buffers in response to said transfer confirmation.

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35.   The method of claim 34 wherein a controller of said data destination sends an error message to said imaging device by said wireless communications network after determining that said data and said identification information have not been successfully received, said transfer manager responsively repeating said data transfer procedure to retransmit said data from said data buffers to said data destination.

36.   The method of claim 35 wherein said transfer manager and a display manager display said error message on a user interface of said imaging device, said imaging device continuing to store said data in said data buffers until subsequently receiving a transfer confirmation from said data destination.

37.   The method of claim 29 wherein a controller of said data destination analyzes said user identifier from said identification information to identify at least one of said system user and said imaging device, said controller then associating said data with said at least one of said system user and said imaging device.

38.   The method of claim 37 wherein said controller stores said data into a data file location that uniquely correspond with, and is identifiable with, said at least one of said system user and said imaging device.

39.   The method of claim 38 wherein said system user subsequently accesses and utilizes said data from said data file location of said data destination by communicating with said data destination with an electronic data-access device.

40.   The method of claim 39 wherein said system user accesses said data file location of said data destination through a distributed computer network by utilizing a personal computer device.

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41. The method of claim 21 wherein said imaging device is economically implemented without removeable storage media capabilities.

42. The method of claim 21 wherein said imaging device includes a conversion software module for converting said data from a first format that is compatible with said imaging device into a second format that is compatible with said data destination.

43. The method of claim 21 wherein said transfer manager transmits said data from said imaging device to said data destination by utilizing a cellular telephone network.

44. A computer-readable medium comprising program instructions for transferring data by performing the steps of:
    capturing said data into data buffers by utilizing an imaging device;
    utilizing a data destination to receive said data for subsequent access
        by a system user; and
    transferring said data from said imaging device to said data destination
        by utilizing a transfer manager.

45. A system for transferring data, comprising:
    means for capturing said data into data buffers;
    means for receiving said data for subsequent access by a system user;
        and
    means for transferring said data from said imaging device to said data
        destination.

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